## Claims

- 1. Instrument (1) for pulling ticks out of the skin of animals or humans, comprising: a longitudinal grip piece (2, 21) for gripping the instrument (1) and
- an end piece (4), which is at least partially flattened, having, at least in part, a first slot (22) for gripping the tick, which end piece (4) terminates in an essentially fork-like shape, which shape has at least two prongs (6) between which a space (10) is formed for grasping a tick, characterized in that the grip piece (2, 21) has a second slot (24) in order to permit the space (10) between the prongs (6) of the end piece (4) to be varied.
- 2. Instrument (1) according to Claim 1, where at least one of the slots (8, 22, 24) has an essentially V-shaped cross section (10).
- 3. Instrument (1) according to either of the preceding claims, where the slots (8, 22, 24) are connected together by a film hinge.
- 4. Instrument (1) according to any of the preceding claims, where the first slot (22) and the second slot (24) are designed as one slot (8).
- 5. Instrument (1) according to any of the preceding claims, where the second slot (24), viewed in a direction essentially parallel to the first slot (22), has a non-uniform width.
- 6. Instrument (1) according to the preceding claim, where the slot width varies essentially parallel to the longitudinal extension of the grip piece (2, 21).
- 7. Instrument (1) according to the preceding claim, where the slot width, at least in a transition (28) between grip piece (2, 21) and end piece (4), is enlarged with respect to sections of the slot (8, 22, 24) adjacent to this transition (28).
- 8. Instrument (1) according to any of the preceding claims, where the grip piece (2, 21) is symmetrical with respect to rotation.
- 9. Instrument (1) according to any of the preceding claims, where a light source is provided, by which the end piece (4) is capable of being at least substantially illuminated.
- 10. Instrument (1) according to any of the preceding claims, where a magnifying lens directed to the end piece (4) is provided.